

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

Number: WIAB00-68

Date: March 5, 2001

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2000

The purpose of this bulletin is to alert Workforce Investment Areas to the potential for a new special needs population. On November 7, 2000, Californians passed Proposition 36, the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Act). The Act makes substantive changes to both the criminal justice system and the substance abuse treatment service system. The Act mandates that any person convicted of a nonviolent drug possession offense, and any parolee who is determined by the Parole Authority to have committed a nonviolent drug possession offense, or violated any other drug-related condition of parole, shall be diverted from incarceration into licensed or certified community-based drug treatment programs.

The Department of Alcohol and Drugs is the State agency responsible for implementing and administering the Act. The Act does provide for \$60 million in start up costs for this fiscal year and \$120 million for Fiscal Years 2001-2002 through 2005-2006. Counties have been allocated a portion of these funds. They have already been notified of their allocation by the Department of Alcohol and Drugs. Funds are to be used for planning and start-up efforts so that services to eligible probationers and parolees will be available on July 1, 2001.

The effect on local communities, in terms of the numbers of persons who meet the criteria for treatment instead of incarceration, is undetermined and will differ for each county. What this means for the local employment and training community is that these individuals constitute a new special needs population. Along with treatment, these individuals will be looking for gainful employment and/or training to assist them in attaining employment. Other social services located in local One-Stops may be affected as well since these individuals may need the full array of social services. The success of these individuals in completing their treatment programs and becoming productive citizens may depend on their ability to find employment, and in local communities being prepared to respond to their needs.

Local Workforce Investment Boards may want to contact their County Board of Supervisors to obtain specific information on county plans for increased treatment and other service needs. Together, the County Board of Supervisors and the Local Workforce Investment Boards can better plan to meet the needs of these individuals.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Saxton at (916) 653-6347.

/S/ BILL BURKE  
Chief